

# PLAYWRIGHTS PROJECT

*“Be not afraid of greatness: some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them.”*

*William Shakespeare*

**SOME OF THE GREATS:** Arthur Miller, William Shakespeare, Neil Simon, Samuel Beckett, Harold Pinter, Bernard Shaw, Bertolt Brecht, Sam Shepard, Noel Coward, Tom Stoppard, Tennessee Williams, Anton Chekhov, Henrik Ibsen, Michael Frayn, David Hare, Eugene O’Neill, Edward Albee, Bernard Shaw, Aprha Behn, Lillian Hellman, Michel Tremblay , Caryl Churchill



Dear High School Theatre 2 Students! For this project you will research and select a 4-5 minute scene to perform in class by a famous playwright. You will need to prepare a 11-20 slide (minimum 11, 1 page is your bibliography page) keynote presentation that discusses; their life and time period they lived and wrote in, who they were, what style they wrote in and what were some of their famous works. You will also need to cite a minimum of 3-5 *quality* and *reliable* sources you used for your research. Your selected scene for performance must be 5 to 10 minutes. Your project will be graded using the following rubric:

## PROJECT RUBRIC: Keynote: 40 points

	10 points	7-9 points	4-6 points	1-4 points
<b>Slides</b>	Students have a minimum of 10 quality slides.	Students have 7-9 quality slides.	Students have 4-6 quality slides.	Student have a minimum of 4 slides.

	10 points	7-9 points	4-6 points	1-4 points
<b>Slide design</b>	Slides are neatly organized, well presented and visually appealing.	Most slides are neatly organized and visually appealing. Some may be cluttered or of lower quality.	Slides are poorly organized and not visually appealing.	Slides are very poorly done and unclear for the most part.
<b>Slide content</b>	Slides have good content, well chosen information are not repetitive, and are well presented and easily understood by the viewer.	Slides have good content for the most part and quality information is presented.	Slide content is poorly organized and presented and only some information can be understood by the viewer.	Slide content is poor to very poorly presented.
<b>Bibliography (Works cited)</b>	Students have a well chosen source selection (minimum 3), a works cited (bibliography) page and present relevant and proper information about their chosen playwright.	Students have done some research and have found some good sources.	Students have done very little research, relied to heavily on one source or do not clearly present their cited works.	No works are cited.

**PERFORMANCE RUBRIC: 45 Points**

	<b>4-5 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>2 Points</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Preparation</b>	The group is well prepared and aware of each others movements and actions.	The group is mostly prepared and well rehearsed with minimal awkward moments and transitions.	The group shows some preparedness, but there are many awkward and unrehearsed moments.	Group members are acting primarily in isolation and don't seem to know what their fellow group members are going to do next
<b>In Character/ Focus</b>	Group displays well developed and thought out characters. Performers also maintain character and keep focus throughout.	Characters are fairly well developed and group members mostly remained focused and in the scene or performance.	Performers are in and out of character and characters are poorly developed. Performers are in and out of focus.	Students are constantly breaking character and/ or losing focus.
<b>Volume and Clarity of Speech</b>	Performers can be heard and understood by observers.	Performers can for the most part be heard and understood.	Performers can at times be heard and understood.	It is difficult to hear and understand performers.

	<b>4-5 Points</b>	<b>3 Points</b>	<b>2 Points</b>	<b>1 Point</b>
<b>Use of Body and Expression</b>	Students incorporate their bodies into their characters. They have interesting and diverse physical movements in their performance. Vocally they are diverse, varied and expressive.	Students move and use their bodies well. Their voices are also animated, varied, and expressive for the most part.	Students show some good use of body and movement. Students at times are expressive and varied vocally.	Students rarely use body and hardly move around the performing space at all. Students have a tendency to speak poorly, or in one way, or using a monotone.
<b>Costumes and Props</b>	Students have well selected costumes and props and incorporate these into their performance.	Students have some costumes and/or props and these are fairly well incorporated into their scene.	Students have made weak costume choices and/or have no props.	No costumes or props are apparent or selected.
	<b>8-10 Points</b>	<b>6-7 Points</b>	<b>5-6 Points</b>	<b>5 Points or less</b>
<b>Effective Presentation of selected scene</b>	Performers present their selected scene with energy and in the appropriate style of their playwright. The scene shows great preparation and is well-rehearsed.	Selected scene is well presented, actors show preparation, energy and that they have rehearsed.	Selected scene is for the most part not well presented. Students are unprepared and appear unrehearsed.	Selected scene is poorly done, students are not very engaging, low in energy and not well prepared.

**INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE COMPONENT:**

	<b>8-10 Points</b>	<b>6-7 Points</b>	<b>5-6 Points</b>	<b>5 Points or less</b>
<b>Your individual performance</b>	Student demonstrates preparedness, focus, a well developed character, solid line delivery and an energetic well-paced performance.	Student demonstrates some preparedness, focus, character, line delivery and presents what is at times an energetic well-paced performance.	Student shows some effort and preparation, but has poor focus and character development and delivers a fairly average performance.	Student shows like to no preparedness, effort or interest in developing a character and the performance is poorly done for the most part.